THE COURIER

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Lafayette Grover: Would-Be President Maker

Born in Bethel, Maine on 29 November 1823, the third son of Dr. John and Fanny Lary Grover, Lafayette Grover was educated at Gould Academy and Bowdoin College. He studied law in Philadephia under the tutelage of Asa I. Fish and was admitted to the Pennsylvania bar in March 1850. Later that year, Grover, moved by the California "gold fever" frenzy, boarded a merchant vessel bound for San Francisco via Cape Horn. He arrived at his destination in July 1851. Within a month, however, he departed for Portland, Oregon on the steamer "Columbia." From there, he proceeded to Salem, the capital of the territory, where he established his law practice. He soon had an invitation from Chief Justice Nelson, who presided over the first regular term of the United States District Court, to accept a position as temporary clerk, an office he held for six months. During that time, he became acquainted with local court procedure as well as jurors, witnesses and litigants. Upon resigning his clerkship, Grover formed a law partnership with Benjamin F. Harding, who later became United States Attorney, Secretary of the Territory, and United States Senator. He and Harding enjoyed a very lucrative law practice for several years. In 1852, Grover was elected by the Oregon Legislature as the Prosecuting Attorney of the second Judicial District of the Territory, which extended from Oregon City to the California line. The next year, he was elected to the Territorial Legislature. That summer of 1853, hostilities arose between the Rogue River Indians and the local settlers. Grover was appointed by Governor Curry as recruiting officer to raise volunteer troops to assist the settlers against the Indians. He quickly recruited a force, which mustered at Salem under the command of J. W. Nesmith, who later became United States Senator from Oregon. Grover was given the rank of First Lieutenant. These troops, accompanied by a pack train with arms, ammunition and supplies, hastened south to aid the besieged settlers.



At the close of hostilities in September 1853, Grover appeared in court as Deputy United States District Attorney in the southern counties, then held for the first time and presided over by Judge Matthew P. Deady. Congress assumed compensation of the settlers whose property was destroyed by a hostile Indian attack in the Rogue River Indian War of 1853. Grover was appointed one of the commissioners to assess the damage, serving as President of the Board in 1854. He returned to the Legislature from Marion County the following year and was selected as Speaker of the House during the 1855-56 session.

During this time, the combined Indian tribes from the California line to the British (later Canadian)boundary attacked the settlement in a determined manner throughout Oregon and Washington. Two thousand volunteers were called into the field to cooperate with the regular forces to suppress the attack. In this movement on the part of Oregon, Grover assisted in raising troops and served in the field on the staff of Col. Nesmith throughout the Yakima campaign.

As a result of all this turmoil, the people of Oregon resolved to draft a constitution and apply for admission to the Union as a state. The voters of Marion County selected Grover as a member of the convention, which was convened for the above purpose at Salem in 1857. In that body, he served as chairman of the Committee on the Bill of Rights as well as other significant committees, and took an active and leading role in the deliberations. Following the drafting of a constitution, general elections were held. Grover was elected as the first representative to Congress from Oregon. The chief work of the Oregon delegation at that time was to secure Oregon's admission to the Union and the federal government's assumption of the Indian war debt

(Continued on page 4)



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Elsewhere in this issue is the list of Society members which we publish in the Spring issue every year. Membership development is an important Society activity. An organization such as ours can never have too many members, too much endowment, or too much good publicity. Our Membership Committee works hard each year to recruit new members. Last year we had great success and I am hoping 2004 will be even better. I urge every member to suggest at least one person for possible membership in the Society. Please send these suggestions to the office, so that we can follow up with an invitation to join.

Arlan R. Jodrey

ANNUAL FUND

Help keep the Society strong by making a gift to its Annual Fund Campaign. Tax deductible contributions help support its exhibits, special events, publications, and other programming. Gifts in any amount may be made throughout the year to the Society at P.O. Box 12, Bethel, ME 04217-0012.

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

The Bethel Historical Society is committed to building on its reputation as a premier regional history center that will continue to enrich the educational and cultural life of its community for generations to come. Members and friends have generously contributed to the operations of the Society and to the acquisition of the Robinson House. In order to ensure the long-term maintenance and further development of the Center's facilities, programs, and collections, the Society is seeking new forms of support. You, readers of *The Courier*, are asked to consider making a charitable gift to the Society through a bequest in your will, the establishment of a trust, or a number of other financial arrangements and options that are available. These charitable gifts can be structured to support the Society's mission while at the same time assuring the security of your family. For more information, please contact the Society by calling (207) 824-2908 or (800) 824-2910 or by writing to P.O. Box 12, Bethel, ME 04217-0012 or by e-mail: info@bethelhistorical.org

(Lafayette Grover, continued from page 1)

Following his service in the Thirty-Fifth Congress of the United States, Grover devoted himself to largely professional and business pursuits. He formed what became a highly successful law partnership with Joseph S. Smith at Salem, who later served in the U.S. Congress from Oregon. Subsequently, the partnership was extended to Portland to include Judge W. W. Page.

As time passed, Grover took an increasingly strong interest in the development of manufacturing in Oregon. In 1856, he assisted in organizing the Williamette Woolen Manufacturing Company of Salem. He also became active in the Santium River water power project, where he remained for fifteen years and attained great success. In 1860, Grover purchased the shares of Joseph Watt in the Santium River project and became the owner of one third of all the mills and water power of Salem. From 1867 to 1871, he served as manager of the company. Under his direction, the Salem flouring mills were completed, including the installation of all the machinery and works, plus the construction of a steamboat canal from the river to the mills. This operation was a great stimulant to the growth of to other business enterprises, particularly wheat and wool raising in Oregon.

Presiding over the Democratic State Convention in 1866 as the chairman of the Democratic State Committee, a post he held for four years, Grover brought the party to ascendency to compete with Oregon Republicans. His partisanship was often excessive and as a result he was both feared and heartily disliked in some circles of the population of his adopted state.

In 1870, he was elected as Oregon's Governor and re-elected in 1874. He served as Governor until 1877 when he resigned to enter the United States Senate following his election by the legislative assembly. As governor, he was fiscally conservative, but entrepreneurial in outlook, supporting key projects that would benefit the state's economy. During his gubernatorial tenure, the State Capitol and other public buildings were constructed. He raised educational standards and oversaw the establishment of the state university. His policies encouraged immigration, low taxes, and prudent industrial development.

His most notable historic role was played during the dispute over the 1876 presidential election when Republican Rutherford B. Hayes and Democrat Samuel Tilden were vying for the White House in a contested election. Oregon was one of the key state where the contest was in question. As Governor, Grover refused to certify the elector who was to cast a decisive vote since Oregon was one of the states holding the balance of power in the Electoral College. Grover's attention was focused on one of the three Republican elector candidates, John W. Watts, a postmaster. The Governor maintained that the fact Watts worked for post office disqualified him. Grover urged that he be replaced by the next name on the list, E. A. Cronin, a Democrat. He prepared an elaborate brief for the Electoral Commission that was established to determine the members of the Electoral College. The Commission overruled Grover's attempt to appoint Cronin, so this fact contributed to the one vote margin in the Electoral College that made Hayes President of the United States. Grover's partisanship brought the threat of mob violence; he also encountered petitions being circulated against his seating as a United States Senator. He overcame this opposition, however, and served respectably during his one Senate term.

Although his career as a lawyer and businessman had been highly successful, his retirement years were not prosperous ones. He mismanaged his affairs to such an extent that he lost his fortune and was forced to live in humble circumstances. As a result, he was almost entirely forgotten at the time of his death on 10 May 1911. He married Elizabeth Carter of Portland and they were the parents of one son, John Cuvier. A genial, intelligent, and literate individual, Grover can be characterized as one with a keen mind, who possessed excellent legal training. His excessive partisanship, however, marred his political career and affected the historical assessment of his achievements as U.S. Representative, Governor and U.S. Senator. He died in Portland, Oregon and is buried there in Riverview Cemetery, an entire continent away from the little town in Maine where his life began.

SRH

2004 Calendar of Events

February 21 Heritage Day
March/April Winter/Spring Course: Four Centuries of Northern New England and Canadian History
May 13 Lecture "Highlights of the History of Gilead, Maine" Howard Reiche and Hugh Chapman
May 29 Faye Taylor Memorial Art Show
St. Never's Day Sale
June 10 Lecture "Cross-River Ferries in 19th and 20th Century Maine" David Chaplin
June 18-19 House and Garden Tour of Bethel
July 1 Dr. Moses Mason House Opens for Summer Season
July 4 Fourth of July Community Picnic
August 10 Pequawket Historical League Meeting
August 13-15 Sudbury Canada Days
August 13 Hall Memorial Lecture by Elizabeth De Wolfe, University of New England, "Fighting Piou Frauds and Base Deceptions: Anti-Shakerism in New England"
August 15 Old Fashioned Hymn Sing at the Middle Intervale Meeting House
September 9 39th Annual Meeting, Speaker: Marty Engstrom, "A Winter Trip on Mount Washington"
October 14 Lecture: "Andover, Maine: A Brief History" Robert Spidell
November 11 Lecture: "Alder River Grange 1904-2004" Stanley R. Howe
December 2 Annual "Christmas with the Masons"
December 31 "New Year's Bethel"

New Life Members

George and Virginia Gamble, Bethel
Carroll L. Kimball, Frederickton, NB
Bill and Laura Ward, Bethel
Carole York, Stratham, NH

In Memoriam

Died, 16 November 2003, Marguerite H. Mc Nally, Hampden, Life Member
Died, 11 December 2003, Carol B. Hardenbrook, Kennebunk, Life Member
Died, 11 January 2004, William H. Howe, Ottawa, Ontario Contributing Member

Bethel Historical Society
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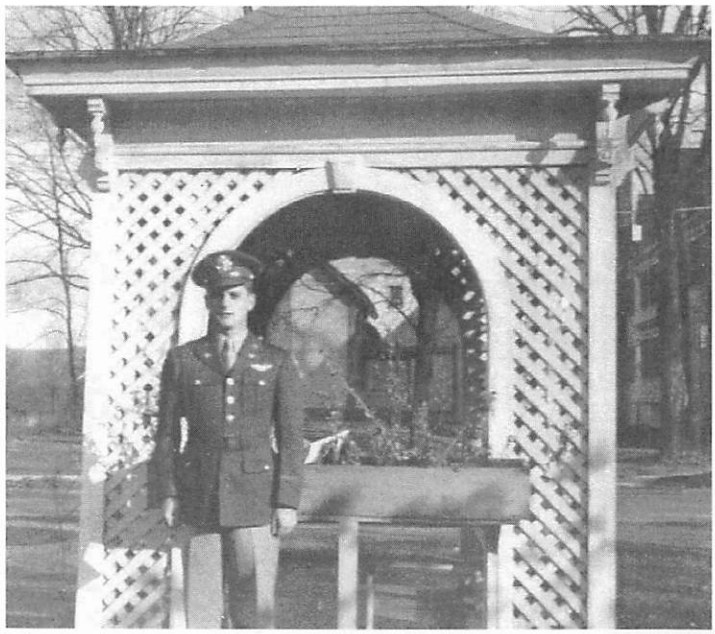
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Diary of William S. Hastings

(continued from the last issue)

1940- September 5, Clear, warm. Surveying for Chas. Valentine in 21 R 8 & 19 R8. Home at 8:20 p.m. Rehearsal after that. September 6, Cloudy, showers. Butchered a veal. Surveyed 3 ½ hrs. for P. H. Chadbourne in L 28 R 2 Bethel. Rumford with veal. September 7, Rain. Wired 2 ½ hrs. for John Irvine. Started at 2 p.m. for Mason Meeting at Flagstaff. Home at 3 a.m. September 8, Clear, cool. Home in a.m. Masonic Funeral for Eben Kilborn in p.m. Ruth's folks came up. September 9, Cloudy. Served as ballot clerk, 12 hrs. September 10, Rain. Repaired old digger. It is sold to Matti Kahkonen for $45. Hung a door at Coburn Place. Sick with heavy cold. September 11, Clear & cool. Surveyed 9 hrs. for Widd Twaddle in Lot 1 Range 15 Gilead on the old Artemas Mason place. Harry Taylor piece. September 12, Clear & cool. Finished in Gilead & went around the Cutter lot, Lot 1 R 7 Albany. 6 ½ hrs. September 13, Clear &cool. Surveyed the Morrill field at Swan's Corner for Woodbury Thayer, 3 hrs. September 14, Clear & cool. Surveyed for 6 hrs. for C. W. Hall on N. side of River. September 15, Clear & cool. Grover's family & our family went to Sawyer Lake [the local name for Wellokennebacook or Lower Richardson Lake]. Nice trip. September 16, Cloudy. Mowed buckwheat. Repaired ensilage cutter. Crew is cutting corn. September 17, Clear. Cutting in ensilage. September 18, Clear & warm. Surveyed 8 ½ hrs. for Widd in L 1 R 7 Albany. September 19, Rain, clearing. Patched roofs. Cut in ensilage. Filled the silo. Play, "The Deacon Slips" in the eve. Supper & play cleared $53. September 20, Clear & hot. Started digging spuds, 77 bbl. September 21, Rain. Moved posts in Coburn cellar. Wired 3 ½ hrs. for Newton. $2.80 credit on book. September 22, Clear & cool, windy. Fryeburg after cranberries. Poor picking, got only ½ bu. September 23, Clear & warm. Dug spuds, 147 bbl. Back is bad. September 24, Clear. I went to Norway for back. Looked up deeds. 2 hrs. for Widd; 1 hr. for Edwards. Car greased & oil changed. New suit, $28.50 with 2 trousers at Pikes [Men's clothing store in Norway]. September 25, Rain. "Line Storm." Wired a lamp for Mrs. [Maude] Irvine. Built door in Coburn cellar. September 26, Cloudy, cold! Carpentered all day, hung door, built stairs & platform, put in a window. C. Knight borrowed $5. "Pay Tues." September 27, Clear. Carpentered. Norway in p.m. September 28, Clear, warm. 7 hrs. for F. Edwards on Moose Bog. Found several old lots. September 29, Clear, warm. Round home. Grover & I went after crab apples [on old Conroy place]. September 30, Clear & warm. Digging [potatoes]. After 4 p.m. I went surveying for Fred Littlehale, Eddie Cross & Frank Osgood in 15 R 8 Bethel. 1940–October 1, Clear and warm. Our 17th anniversary. Dug spuds on see piece. Nice crop. Survyed 3 hrs. for town of Bethel on Osgood Place. 5 hrs. in all. October 2, Clear & warm. Dug spuds. Star inspection. October 3, Clear & warm. Ruth & I started at 9:15 for our "Annual Trip." Lancaster to White River Jct. to Rutland to Fair Haven, N.Y., and Saratoga Springs. Overnight camp. "Heated." October 4, Clear, warm. Schenectady, Mohawk River valley to Syracuse, Oriskany Battle Ground at noon. Rochester and Erie Canal & thru to Niagara Falls at 7 p.m. 590 miles from home. October 5, Cloudy. Saw the Falls, etc. Left at 11 a.m. for Buffalo & Lake Erie. Turned East at noon. Route 20A & 20 thru Finger Lakes country. Drove thru to Duanesburg (20 mi. west of Albany) at 9 p.m. October 6, Cloudy. 7:15 a.m. Albany (State Capitol buildings) then E. on 20 via Pittsfield, Westfield, Springfield (11a.m.). Waltham at 1:25 p.m., Portland & home at 8:15 p.m. 1300 miles in all. October 7, Cloudy. Digging spuds 150 bbl. Rehearsed play at West Bethel. October 8, Rain. Graded spuds in a.m. Hauled ½ load of firewood. Surveyed 3 ½ hrs. for Rob Hutchins in Lot 2 R5 Bethel. Wet job. October 9, Clear & cold wind. Dug for John, 137 bu. Play at W. Bethel in eve. Cleared $20.36 for each Grange. October 10, Clear, warm. Dug 130 bbl. of certified seed. Maso Meeting. October 11, Clear & warm. October 12, Clear & cool. Surveyed for Edwards & Harrington in L20 R2 Bethel. October 13, Cloudy & cool. 7 ½ hrs. for Bob Hutchins in Lot 2 R5 & on 5th range line. [Gene] Burns 1 day $2 [his helper]. October 14, Dug spuds. Ran grade for drain on Main St., Bethel. October 15, Dug spuds & finished ours. 5039 bu. in all. October 16, Clear, cool. All day as Draft Registrar at Bethel. Crew finished John's digging. October 17, Cool. Finished Leslie's potatoes. October 18, Windy. Mrs. Anna Coolidge, 5 hrs. surveying in Greenwood. Wesley Cole & Albert Swan each have jobs. October 19, Cold, windy. Worked on doors at brooder house cellar. October 20, Clear & cool. Harry, Grover, John & I went to the Forks of the Cambridge [near Upton] hunting. Tented near the Forks. Snow at night, ½ ". October 21, Squally, cold. I wounded 1 deer & got a buck "skipper." Harry got a spike-horn buck. October 22, Cold wind. Hunted. No luck. October 23, Clear & warm. No luck. October 24, Windy. We got another "skipper" back of the Haystack. Came home in p.m. October 25, Cloudy. Working on brooder house & cellar. Bethel to see lawyer Hutchins & Clarence Hall. Norway in p.m. October 26, Colder after squally a.m. Tinkered. P.M. counted stumps for Edwards, 1 ½ hrs. Saw Chadbourne. 2 new jobs, Albany & Rumford. Grange in eve. October 27, Cold & clear. Surveyed 4 hrs. for Hutchins in L2R5 Bethel. Finished the job. October 28, Cold, windy. Put up spuds all day. October 29, Cold & clear. 8 hrs. for Dave Enman in Rumford, Lots 40-41-79-2nd Division. Tough job! October 30, Cloudy. South Paris to annual Farm Bureau meeting. October 31, Clear & warm. 8 ½ hrs. for Enman.

(to be continued in the next issue)



Lieut. Parker Brown (b. 1921) stands in front of the 1895 summer house that was moved in 1980 to the grounds of the Dr. Moses Mason House. Lieut. Brown, a World War II pilot whose family lived at what is today Bethel's Philbrook Place on lower Main Street, was killed over Italy in 1944.

Notes Regarding Bethel, Maine

by William A. Valentine

(continued from the last issue)



The Horse That Helped Decide the Location of the Bridge Across the Androscoggin River

The youngest sister of Grandfather, Harriet Valentine, married William T. Richardson, who in later years was a prosperous coal merchant in Cambridge, Mass. He had a comfortable home on about a half acre lot within a quarter mile of Harvard Square.

For many years, he kept a driving horse, but a horse could not be used many years on the hard city pavements without getting corns which unfitted them for use there. If one took the horse out in country and took off the shoes and let it run "barefoot," it would get over the trouble so it could be used in the country as well as ever.

One of Uncle William's horses was an English thoroughbred who in her younger days had a record of 2.30.

Afterward Uncle William sold or gave her to my Grandfather and he had her for some years.

I think some time in the forties they build a bridge across the river at Barker's Ferry, but they built the pier in the middle of the river of timber and filled it with heavy rocks and the first heavy flood carried it away.

Later on, when the question of building a toll bridge came up the question of a location depended on the County Commissioners.

The residents of Newry Corner, five miles down the river, insisted the bridge ought to be built there while Bethel wanted it built there, and I think that was the best place for it for Bethel is a much larger place than Newry Corner and the bridge would serve more people in its present location.

When the Commissioners came to look over the situation, the Newry advocates drove them down the East side of the river over the route that would have to be traveled to come to Bethel if the bridge were located at Newry Corner.

When they crossed the river, Grandfather got the Commissioners into his wagon and showed them what an easy drive it was up to Barker's Ferry where Bethel wanted the bridge located.

The Commissioners voted to locate the bridge where it now stands.

I believe the cost was between 16 and 17 thousand dollars and it was a toll bridge for twenty years and then it was discovered that the toll collected had not much more than paid the toll collector and the bridge had to be paid for by taxation anyway.

The bridge girders were framed of spruce timber and as they dried out the bridge sagged a few inches in the middle and in 1881 they decided to strengthen it and built three wooden arches into each span. They were fitted below the floor of the bridge into the granite piers and the center of the arch carried up nearly to the top of the girders. The arches were made of about two inch planks about twelve inches wide and laid one course above the other until the arch was about 18 inches thick and all the layers bolted together and the arches bolted to the bridge girders at frequent intervals.

The bridge continued in use until 1927 when it was taken down and a steel bridge built in its place.

The old bridge was replaced, but within a year or two a higher flood than had occurred in my lifetime came along up over the new bridge roadway and even removed one of the steel girders a few inches on one end.

Had the flood occurred when the old bridge was standing it would unquestionably have carried it away as the current would have rushed against the side wall of the bridge and it could not possibly have withstood the strain.

About 1934, Uncle Irving Bean told me the timbers were sawed for the bridge at York's Mill. This mill was standing when I was six years old but burned soon after as I believe unprofitable things have a way of doing. I do not see why anyone should have built a mill there anyway as it could not have been of any use except for a few weeks in the spring when the snows were melting for in the summer time there was hardly enough water in the stream to water a horse.

Father had Jennie, the old horse, until I was four years old, and raised several good colts from her and then lost her in the following manner.

One side of our barn was open up the 2nd floor for about 12 feet and we had several boards to close the fencing to keep the cattle under cover in cold weather. They could be slid back out of the way or dropped at one end to let the stock out. This day they had been dropped at one end and Jennie and her colt turned loose. The colt jumped over the low end of the boards but Jennie jumped too high and struck her head against the beam above and dropped dead.

Major Works of Dr. William B. Lapham

Lapham Genealogy (1873)
Tilden Genealogy (1876)
Bisbee Genealogy (1876)
Ricker Genealogy (1877)
Chapman Genealogy (1878)
Chase Genealogy (1878)
History of Woodstock (1882)
History of Paris (with Silas P. Maxim) (1882)
Webster Genealogy (1884)
Centennial History of Norway (1886)
Hill Genealogy (1889)
Smith Genealogy (1890)
History of Rumford (1890)
Knox Genealogy (1890)
Bradbury Genealogy (1890)
History of Bethel (1891)
Frye Genealogy (1891)
Hazelton Genealogy (1892)
History of Augusta Lodge of Free Masons (1892)
Historical Sketch of Hallowell (1892)
Clason Genealogy (1892)
Recollections of the War of the Rebellion (1892)

Morse/Moss Family Open House and Reunion

Anyone with Morse, Mors, Morss, or Moss ancestry is cordially invited to attend a family reunion on October 22 & 23 at the Merry Manor Inn, Portland, ME. For more information, contact Kathie Halvey, 3 Poplar Road, Beacon, NY 12508-1552 or visit: morsesociety.org

Florence Bickford Hastings Traditional Craft Room Completes Naming Challenge

Relatives and friends of Florence Bickford Hastings (b. 1904) have raised to date $26,310 exceeding the $25,000 to provide the requisite amount for a room-naming opportunity for the traditional craft space in the proposed museum addition to the O'Neil Robinson House. Contributors include the following: Philip Andrews, Fryeburg; Allen and Mary Alice Hastings Bancroft, Paris; Mark and Angela Bancroft, Paris; Cynthia A. Bickford, Lisbon Falls; Kristi Bancroft Boucher, West Paris; Michael and Holly Brown, Paris; David and Nancy Brown, St. Johnsbury, VT; Robert and Nancy Chadbourne, Bethel; Rebecca G. Dalke, Shrewsbury, MA; Lincoln and Sue Fiske, Bethel; Mark and Laurie Flanagan, Sudbury, MA; Scott and Ellen Franklin and family, Wolfeboro, NH; Alan and Carol Gamble, Windham, NH; George and Virginia Gamble, Bethel; Cheryl A. Goddard, Lisbon Falls; Carol Hardenbrook, Biddeford; Hastings Family, Bethel; Doris and David R. Hastings II, Fryeburg; Eric and Celeste Hastings and family, North Reading, MA; Jay Hastings, Bethel; Jeffrey and Catherine Hastings, Corinna; Julie D. Hastings and John Warwick, Milford, NH; Norene and Hugh W. Hastings II, Fryeburg; Peter and Stephanie Hastings, Fryeburg; Robert and Bettyann Hastings, Bethel; Joan and John Howe, Ottawa, Ontario; William and Joan Howe, Ashton, Ontario; Leslie Bancroft Krichko, Ridgefield, CT; Brenda Bancroft Leighton, Enfield; David and Ann Morton, Bryant Pond; Helen Morton, Winter Park, FL; Hugh and Emma Morton, Standish; Paul Morton/Danielle Tran, Norway; Thomas D. Morton, Denver, CO; Jack and Lucy Nordahl, Bethel; Pamela and Chis Morton Rowinski, Longmont, CO; Clint and Martha Schaum, Atlanta, GA; Fred and Margaret Spielman, Paris; Helen H. Stearns, Panama City, FL.

Florence B. Hastings

Florence Bickford Hastings was born in Portland, ME on 26 August 1904, the daughter of Robert and Edna Wellman Bickford. She grew up and attended schools in Bowdoinham and Brunswick. After graduating from Gorham Normal School, she taught school in Lisbon, Hanover, and Augusta.

On 18 December 1926, she married Robert D. Hastings of East Bethel. They made their home on the Hastings farm in East Bethel, where they raised their four children, Virginia, Mary-Alice, "Sonny," and Ann. She taught school in East Bethel and was a substitute teacher in the local area for twenty years. As a farm wife, she made and sold butter, raised chickens and vegetables, sold eggs, and daily bake pies, biscuits, cakes, and cookies to feed the family and frequent guests.

Throughout her lifetime, she has earned a reputation for her creative handcrafts. She braided and hooked rugs, made quilts and afghans, did tole painting, knitted sweaters, mittens, and hats, and created Christmas craft items. She excelled at whatever craft she learned and instructed many others through the years. Her home and the homes of her friends, children, grandchildren showcase the quantity, variety, and quality of her handwork.



Florence B. Hastings

Over the years, her cooking has been legendary, and no party or family gathering was complete without her cinnamon buns and pies. Since a stroke in October 2002, she has adjusted to a less physically active role. Family parties are still held frequently at the farm, where she serves as hostess to any and all guests.

In 1976, she was honored as Outstanding Homemaker by the Oxford County Extension Service. For several years, she opened her home to summer visitors as part of the Farm Vacation Program. Families from New York, New Jersey, Michigan, and the Panama Canal Zone were among those who spent their vacations there.

Mrs. Hastings gained notoriety as the "star" of "The Center of Things" an hour-long documentary about the Hastings farm, which was part of the PBS series, *Our Stories.*

Her husband of sixty-six years, Robert D. Hastings died in 1992. She has sixteen grandchildren and twenty-eight great-grandchildren.

For many years she volunteered as a guide and craftswoman at the Society. The Florence B. Hastings Traditional Crafts Room will be part of the proposed addition to the Robinson House and will honor her longtime interest and devotion to these activities. Her legacy will continue with this space specifically reserved for traditional crafts, where future generations will learn and continue to celebrate such old time activities as quilting, weaving, spinning, rug braiding, hooking, tole painting, and numerous other similar pursuits.

Florence B. Hastings will celebrate her 100th birthday at the farm in East Bethel on the 14th of August 2004.

Book Note

Among the White Hills: The Life and Times of Guy L. Shorey. By Guy A. Gosselin and Susan B. Hawkins. (Portsmouth, New Hampshire: Peter Randall, 199. Pp. 217. Cloth. $35)

The White Mountains of Maine and New Hampshire have attracted artists for many years. Painters such as Thomas Cole and other Hudson River School of artists came first. Then with the invention of the camera, photographers focused their lenses upon the remarkable scenery of the region. Among the group of photographers who made their mark in capturing the beauty of these peaks was Guy Shorey, who at the turn of the last century began a career that lasted until his death in 1961.

For over twenty years, the young Shorey traversed the White Mountains, recording images of hikers, mountaintops, buildings, and many aspects of life in the greater Gorham area. Soon the Shorey Studeo in Gorham became a significant stop for tourists wishing to remember their visit with postcards and prints.

By the 1920s, Shorey was prevented by a case of advanced arthritis from hiking. He continued, however, to photograph from his automobile. In addition, he became active in promoting tourism and recording events in his home town.

Following his death, his negatives were transferred to the Mount Washington Observatory, where they became an important attraction for those interested in White Mountain history and literature.

Guy Gosselin and Susan B. Hawkins, a granddaughter of Guy Shorey, have done a remarkable job of selecting a broad range of Shorey's work from local events and streetscapes to views from mountains and valleys. Quite a number of the photographs document buildings that have since disappeared. In addition, several of the photographs have not been previously published.

Gosselin has provided many details in the text of the book. Shorey's granddaughter has contributed biographical details of the photographer's remarkable career.

Shorey loved his home town and the mountains surrounding it. This book makes his devotion clear and will serve as a lasting tribute to a remarkable contribution to the region's history.

SRH

To order, please see page 12.

Editor's Corner

On page 4 of the last issue, the word "Preservation" which is usually a good noun often on our lips at the Society appears toward the bottom of the first column in a reference to Dr. William B. Lapham's membership in the "Society for the Preservation of Cruelty to Animals." The word should be "Prevention" not preservation. I hope no one was concerned that the eminent Dr. Lapham would ever sanction mistreatment of animals. Society Life Member Mary Lee Harris has written us to correct a misidentification that appears on the photo in the Fall 2003 issue under the Hastings family photo. The woman identified as Carol Bettinger Hardenbrook should be listed as her sister, Mary Lee Harris. We regret any confusions these errors may have caused. SRH

House and Garden Tour, June 18-19, 2004

For more information, please call the Society office at (207) 824-2908 or (800) 824-2910 or visit our website: www.bethelhistorical.org

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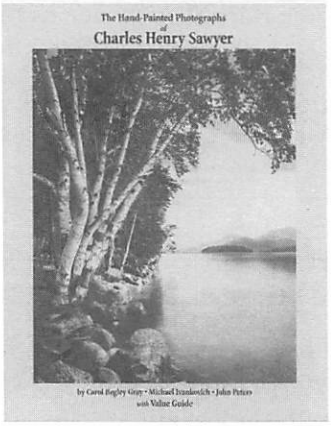
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FROM THE MUSEUM SHOP*



The Hand-Painted Photographs
Of Charles Henry Sawyer
With Value Guide

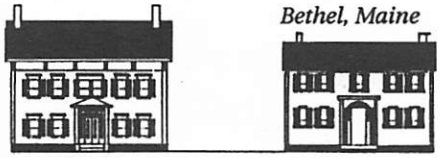
By Carol Begley Gray,
Michael Ivankovich, and John Peters

This history and price guide to the hand-colored photographs of Charles H. Sawyer (1868-1954), founder of the famous "Sawyer Pictures," is an update to the first such guide published in 1995. Issued in 2002, this newer book includes extensive material uncovered since the original publication, along with a greatly expanded title list and value guide. This volume also contains a very useful section on conserving Sawyer's hand-painted photographs, which rival those of Nutting, Davidson, and Harris. Numerous color and black-and-white photos. 60 pp., paper. $18.95

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